



# The Journal

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January 23, 2014

## WTB: 'Wonder Woman' Bids Farewell, 'Superman' Begins Training

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class  
John K. Hamilton  
NSAB Public Affairs  
staff writer

The Warrior Transition Brigade (WTB) National Capital Region (NCR) held a change of command ceremony recognizing Col. Michelle M. Fraley's accomplishments and wished her Godspeed, while welcoming Col. Dana S. Tankins as the new commander of the WTB.

The WTB was activated April 25, 2007 to provide command and control primary care and case management for Soldiers in transition. It establishes the conditions for their care and healing, and promotes their timely return to the force or transition to civilian life. The WTB was the first of the Army's new warrior transition units, spearheading transformation in warrior care throughout the Army.

The ceremony began with overwhelming words of praise for Fraley's many accomplishments as commander of the WTB by Northern Regional Medical Command, Commanding General, Maj. Gen. M. Ted Wong.

"A mission as tough as this requires a leader who is equally as tough and that would be Col. Fraley," said Wong. "Her experience as a commander at all levels and as a staff officer in key assignments in joint, Department of the Army and Department of Defense levels, have really prepared her well to take on the challenges she faced as a commander of the Army's highest profile Warrior Transition Unit and she did a phenomenal job.

"During her tenure, Michelle implemented procedures and enforced regulatory compliance that ensured the safety and welfare of wounded warriors and their families, while improving the efficiency and resiliency of the staff to help

advance the care of wounded warriors," added Wong. "She was affectionately known as 'Wonder Woman' for her ability to solve huge problems."

Fraley was not the only one due for acknowledgment, as Wong recognized the forward momentum in health care standards that Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and Naval Support Activity Bethesda continue to strive for daily.

"It's fitting that we conduct this change of command on this campus, a campus that has a long and distinguished history of healing warriors, a campus that is now a strategic site where much of the future of military medicine is being

developed, defined and demonstrated," he added. "It's a campus where Soldiers and their families who have made great sacrifices are healed. Everyday, Soldiers in the WTB NCR are reaching levels of recovery unimaginable in past conflicts."

As Fraley took the podium to deliver her last address to her former command, she made sure to leave with them words from a great leader who inspired her during her career.

"Gen. Colin Powell reminds us, 'the day your Soldiers stop bringing you their problems, is the day you stopped leading them. They have either lost



(Center) Army Col. Dana S. Tankins prepares to receive the Warrior Transition Brigade (WTB) National Capital Region (NCR) guidon, which signifies his acceptance as the new commanding officer, during the WTB change of command ceremony onboard Naval Support Activity Bethesda in Building 17's gym, Jan. 17.



Photos by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class John K. Hamilton

(From left) Col. Michelle M. Fraley, outgoing commander of the WTB; Maj. Gen. M. Ted Wong, Commanding General, Northern Regional Medical Command Chief and Col. Dana S. Tankins, incoming commander of WTB NCR, salute the colors during the national anthem at the change of command ceremony.

See BLOOD page 10



# Bottom Line: Zero!

Responsibility for fostering a climate intolerant of sexual assault lies with our frontline leaders, our commanding officers (CO). They, along with their executive officers and Senior Enlisted Advisors, have the responsibility of creating a professional command climate that will not tolerate, condone or ignore sexist language and behavior, hazing, sexual harassment and sexual assault. They ensure every Sailor and every victim who reports sexual assault is treated with dignity, respect and professionalism. In that vein, we are now taking the following actions:

- Designating a Flag Officer as the Sexual Assault Prevention Response (SAPR) program leader for each installation/Fleet Concentration area reporting to the Fleet Commander.
- Encouraging community outreach and engagement by every region command and base CO.
- Holding monthly coordination meetings between the regional Flag Officer, Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS), legal office and regional Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARC).
- Making changes made to Fitrep/Eval Instructions to stress evaluation of the individual on his or her character and contribution to command or organizational climate.
- Dedicating SAPR officers (O-4 or above) at 16 Echelon II, type commander, and systems command.
- Ensuring command climate surveys are completed within 90 days of a CO assuming command and annually thereafter. The results are automatically delivered to the immediate superior in command (ISIC) and debriefed by the unit CO to the ISIC and to his or her own command.
- Improving special victim capability, by closing collaboration early and throughout the process among SARCs, victim advocates, NCIS investigators,



prosecutors and Victims' Legal Counsel (VLC) to improve victim support and advocacy, as well as the investigation and disciplinary options to hold perpetrators appropriately accountable.

This program was established to provide legal counsel and, as appropriate, advocacy for victims. Navy VLCs will help protect victims' rights

through the investigative and adjudicative stages of the military justice system. We expect the VLC program will improve the number of victims who fully participate in the system from initial report, through investigation, to adjudication.

- Improving sexual assault and complex-case training for all Judge Advocate General prosecutors.
- Producing a monthly publication of the results of all Navy courts-martial fleet-wide.

Using key metrics, we measure these efforts: The number of cases investigated (this will match the number of unrestricted reports made), the number of completed investigations that have command action taken and the number of victims who convert from restricted to unrestricted reports after consulting with a VLC.

Shipmates, plain and simple, this is serious business. Sexual assault has no place in our Navy! Each one of us has a role to play in preventing it. Hopefully the numbers, or at least their magnitude, will stick with you and demonstrate just how much our Navy is doing to eliminate sexual assault. Moving ahead, the only number that will matter is zero. Zero victims, zero events, zero perpetrators. I need your help; your shipmates need your help. Let's go after this together!

**Rear Adm. Sean S. Buck**  
**Director, Twenty-First**  
**Century Sailor Office**

## Bethesda Notebook

### MLK Jr., Observance Today

The Bethesda Multicultural Committee will host an observance celebrating the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., today at 11:30 a.m. in the atrium (piano area) of the America Building. The event will feature performances by staff members, cake and refreshments. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Lt. Irina Roman at 301-319-0177.

### Tame the Tobacco Crave

Calling all tobacco users at Walter Reed Bethesda. It's time to "Tame the Crave." The Surgeon General has determined tobacco use is the most preventable cause of illness and death. Walter Reed Bethesda's Integrated Health Services-Internal Medicine Department will host a tobacco cessation program on Jan. 30 at 1 p.m. in the America Building's Room 2525A. The program will address the base's policy regarding designated tobacco-use areas (which if violated can result in disciplinary action); nicotine replacement therapies such as patches, gum and medications; behavioral techniques to curb cravings; and electronic cigarettes. All are welcome to attend. For more information or to register, call 301-295-8773, 301-295-0105, or contact [carolyn.m.mesnak.civ@health.mil](mailto:carolyn.m.mesnak.civ@health.mil).

### Dental Fair Nears

February is National Children Dental Health Month and the Pediatric Dental Clinics at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and Naval Postgraduate Dental School (NPDS) will host a dental fair on Feb. 6 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the America Building Pediatrics Clinic on the 4th floor. Staff from the clinics will perform oral screenings and care assessments during the event, which will also include face painting, storytelling, games and information for teaching children good oral hygiene habits. For more information, call NPDS, Pediatric Dentistry or Frederick Wynne at 301-295-1364.

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# Hagel, Fort Belvoir Garrison Commander Lead MLK Remembrance Event



U.S. Army photo

**Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, left, speaks with Army Col. Gregory D. Gadson, the garrison commander of Fort Belvoir, Va., before the Martin Luther King Jr. Day event at the Pentagon, Jan. 16.**

**By Cheryl Pellerin  
American Forces Press**

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel honored the legacy and memory of Martin Luther King Jr. at the Pentagon's annual MLK Day observance, Jan. 16.

Joining the secretary to give the event's keynote speech was Army Col. Gregory D. Gadson, who lost both legs above the knee and suffered severe arm and hand injuries during his third deployment to Iraq. Gadson now serves as garrison commander of Fort Belvoir, Va.

King was an American pastor, activist, humanitarian and leader in the African-American Civil Rights Movement who was assassinated in 1968 in Memphis, Tenn. In 1964, King received the Nobel Peace Prize for combating racial inequality through nonviolence and was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal. Martin Luther King Jr. Day was established as a U.S. federal holiday in 1986.

"The rights that make America free, rights that this department protects and defends, come with heavy responsibilities like taking care of our people, looking out for one another and lending a hand to those in need. Martin Luther King knew that," Hagel told the audience.

King knew that no matter how one serves, the secretary added, service is ultimately about people, hope for a better life, a better world and "through all the struggles and sacrifices turning that hope into reality."

King "was a man of vision, a man of passion, a man of commitment" who left a powerful legacy, the secretary said.

He dedicated his life to a cause larger than his own self-interest, a cause that would spread across our nation and around the globe," Hagel said of the late civil rights leader.

Then Hagel addressed Gadson.

"What your life has represented, what you continue to do for this country is pretty special. Your sacrifices, I think we all agree, define the power of the human spirit and we are especially honored to have you here today, as we celebrate Martin Luther King Day."

Hagel said he was serving in Vietnam in 1968 with his brother Tom when he heard about King's death.

"Everyone was silent," the secretary recalled. The tragedy, he said, threatened to deepen a racial divide that was already hurting the morale and effectiveness of his unit and others in Vietnam.

"I recall the courage of our company commander in Vietnam, [Army] Lt. Jerome Johnson. He was a 23-year-old African American from Chicago who was drafted into the Army. He went to [Officer Candidate School]. Soon thereafter he was in Vietnam. His older brother had been killed in Vietnam the year before," Hagel added.

Johnson was one of the most effective leaders Hagel had ever seen, the secretary said, and at a time when racial problems plagued the Army in Vietnam, Johnson brought black and white soldiers together.

"He made clear to all of us that this was everybody's fight, that we were going to fight together, that we were all Americans," Hagel said. "Today, 45 years later, Lt. Johnson's words still ring very true."

Everyone in the Pentagon and the department knows that serving together means fighting together, he added, and that military members serve knowing that diversity is at the heart of each service's strength.

"As Dr. King said, 'Everybody can be great because everybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve ... You only need a heart full of grace and

a soul generated by love.'"

Hagel said Gadson is an example of that.

"Even after he sacrificed so much for his country, he refused to let adversity keep him down," Hagel said of Gadson. "Instead, he continued to serve because, as he once said, 'Our lives should not be about what's in it for ourselves, but really what we have to offer to our society.'"

After Hagel and his brother returned from Vietnam, he said he lost touch with Lt. Johnson and tried unsuccessfully for years to find him.

"But I found that it's easier to find people when you're Secretary of Defense," Hagel said as laughter erupted from the audience, "and last week, af-

ter 45 years, Lt. Johnson and I finally reconnected. It was a humbling moment for me."

Hagel said Johnson was one of the best military officers he's ever known, but first he was a remarkable human being who believed all people should be treated equally and with respect, just as King and Gadson have lived that belief.

"Today as we celebrate Martin Luther King's birthday and as we serve our nation and each other, let us recommit ourselves to realizing Martin Luther King's vision — the vision of Col. Gadson, of Lt. Johnson, and of all who believe in our country, and all who believe in each other," the secretary said.

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# Walter Reed Bethesda Salutes Nurse with DAISY Award

By Cat DeBinder  
WRNMMC Public Affairs  
staff writer

"Caring is what we do best," is a motto for Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC). Although this is a given every day for nurses here, each month the nation's medical center honors one of its nurses with the DAISY Award for extraordinary nurses, and Ensign Samantha Diggs earned the honor for November.

Diggs, who works onboard 3 Center (3-C), was presented the award among her colleagues, by the Director of Nursing, Army Col. Risa Ware.

Brig. Gen. Jeffrey B. Clark, WRNMMC director, was also on hand to congratulate the nurse and salute all of the WRNMMC staff.

"We see a lot of patients, one at a time – one patient at a time, one family at a time," said Clark. "What we get to do is a pleasure – it's called a 'profession; not a job,'" he added. "We do three things at Walter Reed Bethesda: accomplish our mission; take care of each other; take care of our families."

"I was stoked, humbled, and appreciative," said Diggs of the accolades. She also admitted to not being "a big fan of being in the spotlight."

She received the Healer's Touch sculpture, made of serpentine stone and awarded to each DAISY winner. The sculptures are each hand-carved by a Shona artist in Zimbabwe, where the Shona people have "profound respect for their traditional healers, who are regarded as treasures by those they care for," explained Joan LoepkerDuncan, a WRNMMC nurse and organizer for the DAISY program. She and Ware, said these are the same sentiments of WRNMMC patients and staff for our nurses.

Diggs was nominated for the DAISY award by the daughter of a patient, who wishes to remain anonymous. The patient suffered a major heart attack following a 17-hour flight from Landstuhl, Germany to WRNMMC.

"He was in pain and just couldn't get comfortable or settled," said the patient's daughter. [Diggs] comforted him for four hours until he was able to

calm down and go to sleep," she added.

The patient's daughter said Diggs "showed absolute commitment and extraordinary compassion, which [the daughter] had never before witnessed in a hospital setting. I was relieved to know that my dad was in such good hands, and that she was by his side through the night," she said.

For her part, Diggs said she was surprised by the nomination, explaining, "I didn't think I had made such an impact on that family."

In the Navy for less than two years, Diggs said one of the biggest rewards she gets from nursing is "seeing patients get better and healthier. It's also nice to work with the families and keep everyone at ease."

Ensign Heather Ingalls, also of 3-C, and Caryn Jaffe, of 3 West, were also nominated for December's DAISY Award.

The family of Patrick Barnes established the DAISY (an acronym for Diseases Attacking the Immune System) award following his death

See DAISY page 8



Photo by Cat DeBinder

**Ensign Samantha Diggs, the honoree for the November DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses, holds the certificate and Healer's Touch sculpture she earned for providing skilled and compassionate care to patients at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.**

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# Regional Mission Brings New Changes to Public Health

**By Sharon Renee Taylor**  
WRNMMC Public Affairs  
staff writer

Nine services at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC) have merged to form the new Department of Public Health at the nation's medical center.

The merger, completed in October 2013, combined parallel missions and resources, such as personnel and information technology, to avoid duplication and maximize efficiency, according to Navy Lt. Cmdr. Daron Patton, public health operations officer. The new department has a regional mission, he said.

The Public Health Department provides services for both Army and Navy commands throughout the National Capital Region: including Naval Support Activity Bethesda, the Pentagon, Army Research Laboratory in Adelphi, Md., and U.S. Army Fort Detrick Forest Glen Annex (along with its tenant commands), Patton explained. The department also supports



Courtesy photo

**Nine services at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center have merged to form the new Department of Public Health, giving the department a regional mission focused on innovative broad-based public health solutions backed by science and research.**

military sites from Fort Eustis and Fort Lee in southern Virginia, to as far north as Fort Drum and West Point, both in upstate New York.

"We cross-train our staff to help each site meet its service- or joint-specific regulations," Patton said. "We support all branches."

The Public Health Department began the transition on

July 1, 2013, after a review of Fort Belvoir Community Hospital and previous arrangements from the former Walter Reed Army Medical Center and former National Naval Medical Center, Patton explained.

"Over the last four years, the face of Public Health at [the medical center] has changed dramatically," said Navy Cmdr. (Dr.) Shawn Clausen, the pre-

ventive medicine officer for WRNMMC.

Occupational Health, Public Health Nursing, Clinical Preventive Medicine, Industrial Hygiene, Occupational Audiology, the Physical Readiness Training Office, Environmental Health Services and Radiation Safety form the new Department of Public Health, along with the Command Safety office. The new department falls under the Director for Clinical Support Services.

"With the standing up of the Patient Centered Medical Home, many of the departments under Public Health were moved to other directorates. In addition, a new direct patient care requirement by the [Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical Education] required that we incorporate a strong preventive medicine curriculum within the Public Health Department," said Clausen, who was instrumental in the initial organization of the new department during the transition period. According to Army Col. Casmere Taylor, who serves as department chief for

the new public health department, Cmdr. Clausen was a critical piece in the successful merger.

"The future of Public Health at WRNMMC is evolving against the backdrop of a changing healthcare delivery model," Taylor explained.

The new Department of Public Health is aligned with the Readiness Pillar of the medical center's Strategic Plan for a fit and healthy force, as well as Military Health System's Quadruple Aim, for readiness and population health, Taylor said.

"The new organizational alignment will allow us to seek out the most innovative broad-based public health solutions that are backed by both science as well as research," Taylor added. "It will allow us to move into the mainstream dialogue and build momentum for change. If we can address the most pressing health issues [as well as] improve the well-being of our patients, workforce and community — one policy at a time — then we have done our job as a department."

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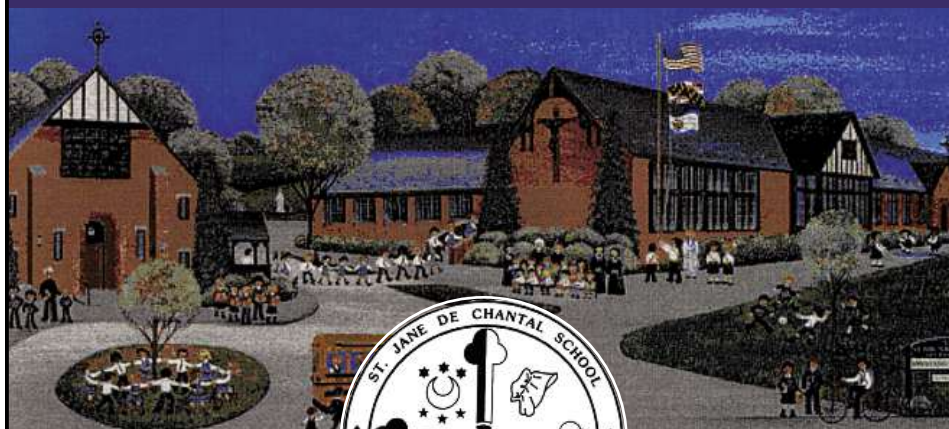
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# Finding Tomorrow’s Sailors

## The Benefits of Recruiting Duty

By Chief Mass Communication Specialist  
Christopher E. Tucker  
Defense Media Activity

Fire Controlman 2nd Class Brian Whitaker saw recruiting duty as a chance to be close to home. With a three-year-old daughter and coming off four-and-a-half years of sea duty aboard USS George Washington (CVN 73), he wanted a chance to spend some time focused on his family.

So when he entered his detailing window, he asked if there was a recruiting billet close to Richmond, Va. He was in luck. There was a billet in Fairfax, only 100 miles north of his hometown, but he had to qualify.

“My daughter was with me in Japan, and I wanted her to get to know her aunts, uncles - get to know her family,” Whitaker said. “I wanted to spend a little more time with her on shore duty as well.”

Fortunately, he was a top-notch Sailor with solid evaluations and no physical fitness shortcomings. His chain of command endorsed his special-duty screening package.

Whitaker is one of literally thousands of Sailors from the fleet who are selling the Navy to potential recruits around the country, and in some cases around the world. (The Navy has recruiting stations in Guam, Europe and Japan.)

In fiscal year 2013, Navy recruiters brought 40,681 enlisted Sailors into the Navy across 1,450 recruiting stations. The vast majority of these recruiters are just like Whitaker, fleet Sailors who take special duty and work outside of their rating. (Whitaker is a NATO Sea Sparrow missile technician by training.)

For some Sailors, the transition from fleet Sailor to recruiter might be a breeze, especially if they are naturally outgoing and have an extrovert personality. For others, like Whitaker, learning the art of salesmanship can be a bit more challenging.

“It was a difficult transition, especially for me,” said Whitaker. “I really didn’t have any experience in sales before recruiting. The only training I received was the one-month course the Navy offers in Pensacola, Fla.”

Whitaker said his challenge was learning to listen to people when he talked to them about the Navy; learning to have a conversation. He also had to learn the finer points of public speaking. He said it took him about three months to begin to feel comfortable with the job.

“People are looking for information about the Navy for a reason,” he said. “I’m not going to figure out what they want if I’m just rambling on about why I joined the Navy or how my time has been. [I’ll never] find out those reasons without me paying attention to what it is exactly they need.”

Three-and-a-half years later, Whitaker is now one of his recruiting district’s top recruiters. In fact, he was credited with being the number two recruiter for bringing in candidates into the Navy’s special warfare program. During his tour, he was responsible for bringing more than 70 people into the Navy.

“He is my best recruiter. He always strives to achieve,” said Navy Counselor 1st Class Charon Bingham, the leading petty officer for Navy Recruiting Station (NRS) Fairfax. “He’s always the one that goes out and makes up for where we fall short.”



Photos by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Nathan Laird

**Fire Controlman 2nd Class (FC2) Brian Whitaker, a Navy recruiter stationed at Navy Recruiting Station Fairfax walks with a future Sailor after he took the oath of enlistment and officially entered the delayed entry program at the military entrance processing station at Fort Lee, Va.**

At NRS Fairfax, Whitaker works with three recruiters and a leading chief petty officer. On a typical day, (Whitaker said there are no typical days in recruiting because every future Sailor presents a unique set of circumstances,) he gets visits from people who are in various stages of joining. Some people just want basic information; others are trying to get their personal affairs in order to meet Navy requirements.

Each time a future Sailor visits the station, Whitaker goes over a checklist on what stage of the process they are in - he reviews with them the 11 general military orders, facing movements, Navy ranks, and checks height and weight to make sure the future Sailor will be within standards when he or she “ships out.”

Other days, he finds himself visiting a nearby school to talk to students during lunchtime, or escorting a future Sailor to the Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) at Fort Lee, Va., to meet with medical screeners. While the hours can be unpredictable at times, Whitaker said the effort is worth it.

“I would really love to run into some of my Sailors in the fleet,” said Whitaker. “I feel like I’ve put some quality Sailors in the Navy.”

For every six people he talks to about the Navy, Whitaker said he may find one qualified applicant.

On a wall at the Fairfax recruiting office is a status board that has the chain of command for future Sailors enrolled in the delayed entry program. There is also a stack of about 20 letters posted on the board from recruits at Recruit Training Command thanking Whitaker for helping them get in the Navy, and letting him know how they are adjusting.

“That’s a feeling you can’t get from a paycheck,” Whitaker said. “I love it.. It feels like I always get those letters on those days I’m coming from MEPS at 9 p.m. [with someone who] wasn’t able to get in. That’s the best feeling; they’re simply saying ‘Thank you.’”

### Know Your Audience

The Fairfax, Va., area is one of the most affluent areas in the nation. In 2009, it was listed as number three on Forbes’ list of “Top 25 Towns to Live Well.” With a median income around \$86,000, recruiting in Fairfax presents its own unique challenges.

“How do you entice an applicant [here] who has everything he needs and everything he wants? He certainly doesn’t need a scholarship,” said Lt. Cmdr. Lily Burchill, the division officer for Division 4, which encompasses Washington, DC, Fairfax, Silver Spring and Gaithersburg, Md. “Well, money can’t buy a challenge or facing that leadership challenge and rising to the occasion. That’s what [the Navy] offers.” Bingham agreed that it’s about tapping into the person’s needs and desires.

“You have to listen,” she said. “If you don’t listen, somewhere in that conversation the applicant is going to say a need. If you don’t listen, you’re never going to find out the applicant’s need.”

### Making a Successful Recruiter

For Sailors considering recruiting, the recruiters in the Northern Virginia region offered some advice on what type of person makes someone successful..

“It’s not a normal shore duty,” said Bingham. “It’s



**FC2 Whitaker, records the height and weight of Nick Lipnicky, a recruit candidate in the delayed entry program (DEP.) Individuals in the DEP program attend monthly meetings with their recruiters to prepare them for Recruit Training Command.**



**FC2 Whitaker, speaks to a student during a visit to Herndon High School in Northern Virginia.**

not a 9-to-5, 7-to-3, or a watch bill. It’s a self-paced, self-motivated duty. You have to want to be here.”

Burchill added that those who are not enthusiastic about the Navy should not apply for recruiting duty.

“You have to love the Navy. You have to believe in it,” said Burchill. “This is not a job, it’s a lifestyle, it’s a career. You’re the face of the Navy itself. People will quickly see through someone who is faking it. If you don’t really buy in, you’re never going to be a successful recruiter. You have to believe in your product, and our product is the Navy.”

Chief Navy Counselor Jide Azeez, the division leading chief petty officer for Division 4, said recruiting duty needs Sailors who are self-starters and don’t require someone constantly looking over their shoulder.

“This job requires you to follow up with people,” said Azeez. “You talk to people who have very little



**FC2 Whitaker, goes over paperwork with Daniel J. Roy, a recruit candidate in the delayed entry program.**

understanding about the Navy, and sometimes you have to help them understand what the Navy has to offer them.”

For Whitaker, he’s wrapping up his tour as a recruiter and excited to return to the fleet. His next duty will be to attend C-school to become a Rolling Airframe Missile technician with a follow-on assignment to a ship.

Sailors who find they love recruiting can request

to cross rate into the career recruiting force to become a Navy counselor (career recruiter). Currently, the NC(CRF) rating is at 85 percent manning, and the field is taking applications for conversion into specific year groups.

Sailors around the fleet interested in recruiting duty should talk to their chain of command, their command career counselor and their detailer.



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TOWN HALL MEETING FOR RECOVERING WARRIORS AND FAMILY MEMBERS

WHEN: THURSDAY, 13 February 2014  
WHERE: WARRIOR CAFÉ, BLDG 62  
TIME: 1430-1600

### CO-HOSTED BY

RDML Raquel C. Bono  
Director, National Capital Region – Medical Directorate

CAPT David A. BITONTI  
Commander, NSA-Bethesda

## DAISY

Continued from 4

from an autoimmune disease in 1999. The award and foundation were established to show the appreciation felt by the Barnes family for the nursing care Patrick received during his hospitalization. Since its inception, there have

been 30,000 nurses nominated for the award by their patients, patient's families and colleagues, at more than 1,600 healthcare facilities around the world.

Bonnie Barnes, DAISY cofounder and stepmother of Patrick, said, "Nurses are the unsung heroes of health care; delivering clinical skill with compassion, kindness and sensitivity to patients and their families."

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WRB

Continued from 1

confidence that you can help or conclude you do not care. Either case is a failure of leadership,” said Fraley. “I want to give my personal thanks to Lt. Gen. Horoho, Lt. Gen. Linnington, Maj. Gen. Wong, Maj. Gen. Buchanan, Gen. Bishop and Gen. Kutz for their leadership and coaching to allow us to address our wounded, ill and injured Soldiers and caregivers’ concerns, despite the fact that sometimes the problems took the scenic route through the White House, the Pentagon or members of Congress and even Fox News.”

The outgoing commander suggested that the mission of helping wounded, ill and injured Soldiers could not have been completed without the help of a strong and supportive team.

“It was a privilege to have been selected to command for a sixth time in our military career. My husband Tom and I were honored to have this opportunity again,” said Fraley. “After 27 years of marriage we have had the good fortune to grow as a couple while helping others. We came into command knowing that we share this responsibility with an exceptional staff of health care providers, chaplains, social workers, counselors and mission command cadre members, who touch the everyday lives of our wounded, ill and



Photo by Mass Communications Specialist 2nd Class John K. Hamilton

**Col. Dana S. Tankins, commander, WTB NCR takes to the podium to deliver his first of many words to his team as the new commanding officer of the WTB NCR.**

injured Soldiers and family members. Our nation’s [ability] to take care of our wounded, ill and injured Soldiers is a team effort.”

Tankins, the incoming commander for WTB, assured his new team that he was well aware of the challenges his

new position would present, but put them at ease as he insisted he was up for the task.

“Over the years I have heard that old age question, ‘what comes first, the Soldiers or the mission?’ Well in this position it all comes together,” said Tankins. “The sole mission is taking care of our Soldiers ... to heal, educate and transition, wounded, ill and injured Soldiers back to the force or prepare them to serve as productive veterans.

“I cannot think of a more important mission in the Army,” he added. “I will do everything in my capacity and leverage every resource available to accom-

plish it. And along with my wife Joy, we will put the same effort into supporting their families.”

Tankins thanked the Soldiers in transition at the WTB for their service and sacrifice and ensured that he would do the same for them - serve and sacrifice.

“I promise to provide you with the best service and support possible and will not rest until that standard is met,” said Tankins. “The strength of our nation is our Army, the strength of our Army is our Soldiers and the Strength of our Soldiers is our families. This is what makes our force Army strong. Heal, educate and transition.”

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